

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A computer program for searching information using a computer, the computer program making the computer realize the steps of:

5 extracting, from a knowledge database which stores a plurality of causes, a plurality of questions having a cause-and-effect relation with the plurality of causes, and correlation levels showing a degree of correlations between the causes and corresponding questions, certain questions
10 out of the plurality of questions by an algorithm based on the correlation levels; and

extracting causes with high correlation levels out of the plurality of causes based on an answer result of each of the certain questions from a searcher.

15 2. The computer program according to claim 1 further making the computer realize the step of assigning a priority to each of the extracted causes based on the correlation levels.

20 3. The computer program according to claim 2 further making the computer realize the step of displaying the extracted causes as a search result in colors corresponding to the priorities.

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4. The computer program according to claim 1, wherein a weight is assigned to each of the answer results in the cause extracting step.

Q2 5 5. A method of searching information comprising the steps of:

extracting, from a knowledge database which stores a plurality of causes, a plurality of questions having a cause-and-effect relation with the plurality of causes, and
10 correlation levels showing a degree of correlations between the causes and corresponding questions, certain questions out of the plurality of questions by an algorithm based on the correlation levels; and

extracting causes with high correlation levels out
15 of the plurality of causes based on an answer result of each of the certain questions from a searcher.

6. The method of searching information according to claim 5 further comprising the step of assigning a priority to
20 each of the extracted causes based on the correlation levels.

7. The method of searching information according to claim 6 further comprising the step of displaying the extracted causes as a search result in colors corresponding to the
25 priorities.

8. The method of searching information according to claim 5, wherein a weight is assigned to each of the answer results in the cause extracting step.

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